



ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: ILLINOIS

***Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs, unemployment and earnings data through May 2015**
Last updated on June 19th; Data update next on July 21st*

JOBS

- In May, private-sector employment in Illinois grew by 6,900 jobs. Over the past year, Illinois businesses have added 61,000 jobs. This compares with an increase of 80,000 jobs over the 12 months through May 2014.
- Since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment, Illinois businesses have added 370,400 jobs (an increase of 7.8 percent). Nationally, private payrolls have increased by 11.7 percent over this time.
- The state sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: professional and business services at 19.4 percent (153,200 jobs), leisure and hospitality at 10.1 percent (51,800 jobs) and education and health services at 9.1 percent (74,800 jobs).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Illinois was 6.0 percent in May 2015, holding constant from April. The rate was 0.5 percentage point above the national rate of 5.5 percent.
- Unemployment is down 1.1 percentage points from one year earlier and is 5.2 percentage points below its recent peak of 11.2 percent in January 2010.
- There were 392,000 Illinois residents unemployed in May 2015.

EARNINGS

- In May 2015, average hourly earnings of private-sector workers in Illinois were \$25.77. The average workweek was 34.2 hours, and average weekly earnings were \$881.33.
- Adjusting for inflation, state average hourly earnings have risen by 2.1 percent over the past year. Nationally, real average hourly earnings have increased by 2.3 percent (not seasonally adjusted).

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Illinois	United States
Private-Sector Jobs Added	Past 12 Months	61,000	3.0 million
	Since Feb. 2010	370,400	12.6 million
Unemployment Rate	May 2015	6.0%	5.5%
	May 2014	7.1%	6.3%
	Recession-Era Peak	11.2%	10.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$57,200	\$51,900
	2007 (Pre-Recession)	\$59,000	\$56,400
Poverty Rate	2013	13.3%	14.5%
	2007 (Pre-Recession)	10.0%	12.5%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2014	7.0%	5.3%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2014	8.3%	7.2%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	12.7%	14.5%

STATE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

- Real gross domestic product (GDP) in Illinois grew by 1.2 percent in 2014, below the national average growth rate of 2.2 percent.*
- Since 2009, annual Illinois GDP growth has averaged 1.2 percent, compared with a national average annual growth rate of 1.9 percent.

HOUSING

- Home prices in Illinois increased by 3.4 percent from the first quarter of 2014 to the first quarter of 2015. They are up 10.9 percent since their recent low in the fourth quarter of 2011.
- In April 2015, builders in Illinois broke ground on 23,900 new housing units (seasonally adjusted annual rate), bringing the average over the past 12 months to 19,424 units. That marks an increase of 9.4 percent from the average over the prior 12 months.

EXPORTS

- In Illinois, goods exports totaled \$5.4 billion in April and \$64.2 billion over the past year, up 0.4 percent from the 12 months ending in April 2014 (inflation-adjusted).
- Exports over the past 12 months are up 45.1 percent from their level in 2009 (inflation-adjusted).

* Note: Because of methodological differences, total U.S. real GDP by state differs slightly from headline national GDP figures

** A list of sources used to compile the Illinois economic snapshot is available at: <http://bit.ly/JEC-state-by-state-sources>

*** For additional Illinois-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Illinois office: <http://www.ides.illinois.gov/page.aspx?item=3528>